

# BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANAC

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I have not yet begun to fight!"



## USS BONHOMME RICHARD VISITS EAST TIMOR

Story by Robert Rask and Photos by RP2 Anthony Piloza

The recent visit of the USS Bonhomme Richard and her Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) to East Timor has provided the Timorese people with certain necessary presence of support and goodwill. Project Handclasp is one of the ways U.S. ships usually use to improve lives in the ports we visit. In this case, the materials we have on board are going to be shared with the people of this devastated country tomorrow. Unfortunately, as is the case in most situations like the one that the people of East Timor face, much more help is needed. The inhabitants still

lack some of the most fundamental needs that most people take for granted in their daily lives. Food, medicine, clean water and shelter are still in short supply. We won't be able to tackle these kinds of needs at this time. But it certainly teaches us a lesson about human need and making a present commitment to help when the opportunity arises again.

Over two hundred of the ship's company volunteered to go ashore to assist in this and other community relations efforts. Thanks needs to

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## A DJ WITH INSPIRATION AND VALUES

Story by J01(SW) Robert W. Garnand and photo by PH3 Karri Williams

Electronics Technician Second Class Darnell Forde is a DJ rapping a different kind of message. He is all about inspiration and values instead of just hip-hop and fast talk.

"I've always liked being a DJ as a hobby but I never thought I would own my own DJ equipment," Forde said. "Since I joined the Navy, I've been able to pursue some of the goals and dreams I've had."

Forde, who moved from Trinidad to Brooklyn, N.Y., said one of his goals was to own a business.

"I have a small business now. A DJ service," said Forde. "I've established a Christian and Gospel music

service where I DJ for church and other Christian groups."

"The mentality of the Navy is 'make it happen.' I've carried that 'make it happen' philosophy to my personal life and the DJ service happened," he said.

One of the functions Forde DJ's is "Christ Jam."

"The crowd we attract is mostly young African Americans," Forde said, "and we try to instill and renew traditional values in them. Values like respect for elders, respect for neighbors, and young men and women respecting each other."

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**BUSH, MCCAIN SWAP STRATEGIES**

By Alison Mitchell and Frank Bruni

As the bitter fight for the Republican presidential nomination shifted to Michigan, Sen. John McCain leveled scorching and sustained attacks on Gov. George W. Bush's reform credentials, while his rival stayed up-beat and campaigned as if he were already in the general election.

Just one day after Bush's double-digit victory in South Carolina decisively restored the Texas governor to front-runner status, it was as if the two candidates had exchanged roles. Now it was Bush who was sunny, once more talking about where he wanted to lead the nation and his vision of "a positive, optimistic, hopeful tomorrow." And it was McCain who was ferociously trying to tar his opponent as a fraud, much as he did in his caustic concession speech the night before.

McCain is expected to win his home state. But the big unknown here is whether Michigan's voters will ratify Bush's decisive win in South Carolina or show an independent streak of their own.

**NEW PRT CHANGES ANNOUNCED**

By Michael McLellan

Changes to the Navy's Physical Readiness (PRT) Program were announced Monday by the Chief of Naval Personnel. The changes were effective January 1, 2000 and are contained in OPNAVINST 6110.1F.

Changes announced in NAVADMIN 298/99 include the lifting of the PRT moratorium which expired December 31, 1999. Enlisted Sailors with three or more PRT failures in a four-year period will carry forward their two most recent failures. If an enlisted Sailor who carries forward two failures doesn't pass their next PRT they will be separated at EAOS, and lose advancement eligibility.

Three consecutive PRT's must be passed to avoid separation. Members will be allowed to request extensions in six-month increments to attempt successful completion of three consecutive PRT's. The final decision rests with the member's commanding officer. Officer's with three failures in a four-year period will not be promoted.

Another significant change is that the PRT test and body fat standards will be administered to all age groups. Members over the age of 50 who have no documentation of having the PRT in the previous year will be required to obtain medical clearances prior to testing.

## BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANAC

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*Lt. Cmdr. Laurie Rye, Public Affairs Officer*

*JOC (SW/AW) Stephen K. Robinson, Asst. Public Affairs Officer*

*J01 (SW) Robert W. Garnard, Editor*

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### \* WEDNESDAY'S TV SCHEDULE \*

CHANNEL 2

1100 GOOD MORNING VIETNAM

1630 LETTERMAN

1730 JEOPARDY

1800 FRIENDS

1900 ALLY MCBEAL

2000 GENERAL'S DAUGHTER

2200 FALLEN

CHANNEL 6

1100 THE MUSE

1630 WOO

1800 EAST OF EDEN

2000 BODY HEAT

2200 SCENT OF A WOMAN

## N ATIONAL / INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### FEAR INCREASES AS SURGE IN OIL PRICES CONTINUES

By Joseph Kahn

For the past year, even as the price of oil tripled to \$30 a barrel from a record low of \$10, policy makers, economists and many in the oil industry itself hewed closely to the same line: Oil does not matter much anymore. Technology, which depends much less on energy than manufacturing, now drives economic growth. OPEC, the once fearsome cartel of oil-producing countries, had become impotent.

Such thinking was, and to a certain extent remains, conventional wisdom. But it has taken only a few weeks of \$2-a-gallon heating oil, \$20 airline ticket surcharges and \$60 bills to gas up the sport utility vehicle to make people wonder if oil is really so irrelevant after all. The surge in oil prices has ignited a debate about whether oil could pose a threat to the record American economic expansion.

### LABS TO RELAX SECURITY ON ISRAELIS

By New York Times

The Department of Energy has decided to lift some security restrictions on visits by Israeli scientists to U.S. national laboratories, officials said Sunday. The decision is included in an agreement scheduled to be signed later this week by Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson, who arrived Sunday in Israel. The agreement expands scientific and technical cooperation between Israel and the United States in the energy area. Israel is on the agency's list of sensitive countries that have refused to forswear nuclear weapons or are suspected of secretly pursuing unconventional arms.

### ANGRY SERBS STONE UNITED STATES TROOPS IN KOSOVO

By Carlotta Gall

Angry Serbs stoned, punched and kicked U.S. troops in the northern, Serb-dominated district of this town Sunday, forcing them to beat a hasty retreat and cut short their part in a citywide search for weapons. German troops also came under a hail of stones in the same area.

More than 2,000 troops from 12 countries were deployed at dawn to search apartments and buildings for weapons and explosives in both the Serbian and Albanian parts of this bitterly divided mining town. It was an attempt to curb the violence that has seen 11 people killed and dozens wounded in Kosovo since Feb. 2.

An hour later, as the troops finished searching one building, a noisy crowd began to throw stones and bottles at the troops. The U.S. commander, Col. Michael Ellerby, waded into the crowd alone to talk to the Serbs' leader, Oliver Ivanovic, and appeal for calm. But Serbs began jostling and jeering. Ellerby had to be plucked out by the Italian riot police, and French troops moved to contain the crowd.

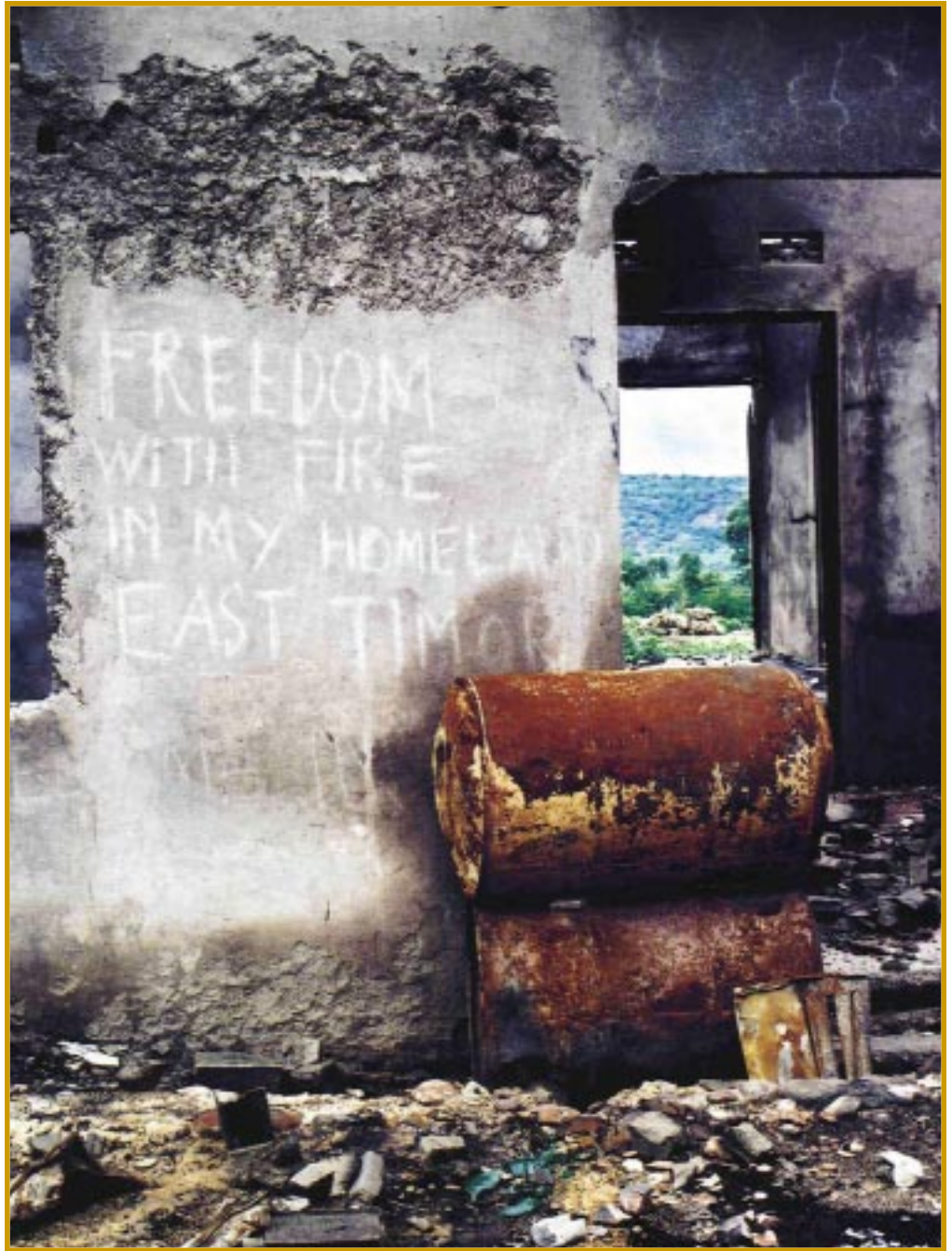
Suddenly, the Serbs broke through the French cordon, and U.S. troops made a quick dash for their vehicles, according to Harald Doornbos, a reporter for National Dutch Radio. "Serbs were punching these GIs, and they were guarding themselves with their rifle butts," he said. "The Serbs just went berserk, and then the Americans ran for their vehicles." One soldier suffered a broken nose, and another a chipped tooth.



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be given to all of them. It's truly commendable. Unfortunately, everyone who wished to help out cannot go. But whether we go ashore or not there might still be ways in which we might help. Can you buy a gift from the ship's store such as a flashlight? How about a Frisbee you brought along that you don't need?

To assist the Timorese people, especially for the children, the BHR is especially seeking monetary donations to aid in the purchase of much needed supplies which have to be imported to help rebuild this island nation. Those wishing to contribute to relief efforts can make donations onboard through Bob Rask, one of the embarked civilians. During meal hours you will see him in the ship's wardroom and on the mess decks with ET3 Davis and SN Woodin. Please locate one of these two individuals who will have a sign to donate money or find out more about how you can help the people of East Timor. For additional information, please feel free to call Bob Rask anytime at x7100.



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Forde said a sense of community is also important. He said it helps some of today's youth gain focus in their lives. That sense of community he speaks about is family, friends and neighbors helping parents guide and instruct today's youth along the right path in life.

"In the Navy, we have a sense of community. That is what helps us to be focused. When somebody goes back to their hometown, they realize they can't do the same things they were doing before because they're in the Navy now. The people they've met in the Navy community have given them values too."

Inspirations in Forde's life have been his grandfather and God.

"My grandfather was a person who felt nothing was impossible to him," said Forde. "Maybe it was a challenge, but it wasn't impossible. After a while I sort of picked that up from him."

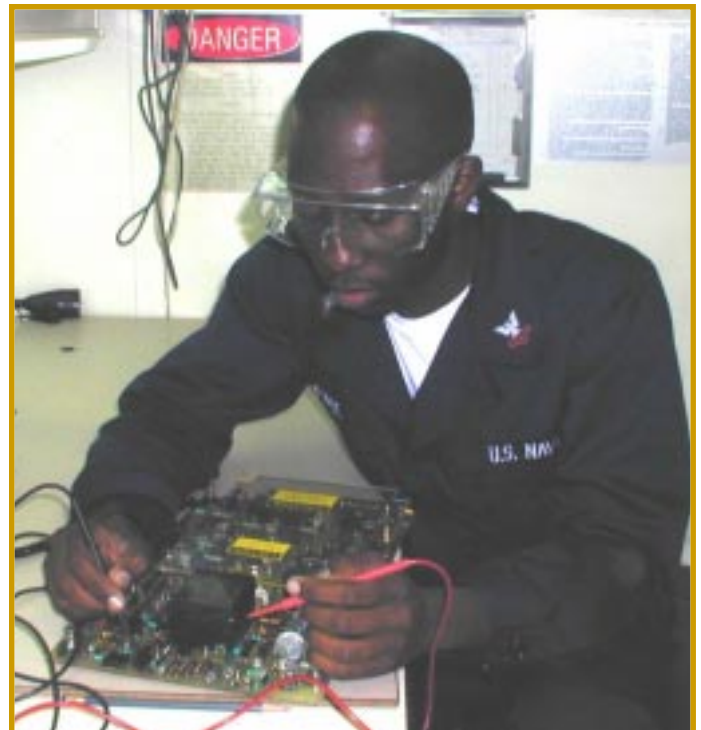
"I believe we need to remember God, too. God has empowered us to do things and through Him nothing is impossible. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. I think all people need to remember that we have that inner strength," he said.

Forde went on to say, "Who inspires me inside the Navy is a Chief I had worked for on the

East Coast. He used to push me to learn stuff and look up the answers to my own questions. At the time I didn't like that but I learned responsibility because of it.

"He reminded me of my grandfather because he pushed me to do things," said Forde. "Some people can see what you have inside when you can't see inside of yourself and they push that out of you."

Now Forde's DJ work, what once was a hobby, is linked up with an Internet radio show called "Caribbean Gospel."



Electronics Technician Second Class Darnel I. Forde works on a digital indicator display card in the ship's Miniature/Microminiature Electronic Program Repair Shop. When in port and Forde's not working with electronics, he's plays Christian and Gospel music on the Internet radio showed "Caribbean Gospel."

## SPORTS

### JARRETT TAKES THE LEAD IN THE DAYTONA 500 OPENER

By Associated Press

Last year's Winston Cup champion is this year's Daytona 500 winner. Dale Jarrett grabbed the lead from Johnny Benson with four laps remaining and took advantage of a yellow caution flag at the end to win the Winston Cup season opener.

Jarrett cruised to victory after Jimmy Skinner's crash on lap 198 brought out the yellow caution. Jarrett led for 89 of the 200 laps after starting from the pole.

Jeff Burton finished second, followed by Bill Elliott, Rusty Wallace and Mark Martin. That gave Ford a sweep of the top five positions.

### NBA SCORES

Dallas	100	Toronto	96
Miami	85	Charlotte	80
New Jersey	91	Minnesota	89
Portland	108	Sacramento	103
LA Lakers	87	Philadelphia	84
San Antonio	113	Houston	111
Golden State	112	Washington	103

### ARBITRATION WAS KINDER TO BASEBALL OWNERS THIS SEASON

By Associated Press

The arbitration process was much kinder to baseball owners this winter. The average salary increase for arbitration-eligible players was 124 percent, as opposed to 169 percent last season.

Philadelphia outfielder Bobby Abreu had the biggest gain. He'll average nearly 4.8 million dollars a season over the length of his three-year deal after making 400-thousand dollars in 1999.

### TRIPLETT FINALLY PLAYS AND EVEN WINS FIRST TOURNAMENT

By Associated Press

Kirk Triplett has been carrying a PGA tour card since 1989. Sunday, he finally carried a tournament. Triplett earned his first victory in 266 tour events, closing with a 4-under-par 67 to win the Nissan open by one stroke over Jesper Parnevik.

Triplett built a three-shot lead on the back nine and held off a hard-charging Parnevik by sinking a four-foot putt for par on the final hole. Tiger Woods failed to record a top-ten finish for the first time since April. Woods pulled within two shots of the lead before sinking into a tie for 19th, seven shots back.

### NHL SCORES

Chicago	6	Detroit	4
Dallas	2	Colorado	1
Philadelphia	3	NY Rangers	2
Phoenix	4	Atlanta	2

### TOP-25 MEN'S NCAA

(15) Temple	77	(1) Cincinnati	69
(24) Kansas	53	(20) Oklahoma	50

### TOP-25 WOMEN'S NCAA

(2) Tennessee	80	(9) LSU	48
(3) Georgia	72	Arkansas	69
(4) La. Tech	82	Arkansas St.	79
(6) Penn St.	66	Northwestern	34
(11) Santa Barbara	92	Long Beach St.	61
(13) Auburn	67	Mississippi	63
(16) Old Dominion	74	E. Carolina	58
(19) Boston Coll.	66	Pittsburgh	52
(21) Virginia	60	(7) NCSU	51
(22) Miss. St.	66	Florida	57
(23) Marquette	82	St. Louis	70
(25) George Wash.	70	Xavier	68